

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Declassified Case: DWM 84788 Date:
03-13-2013~~SECRET~~

TO : THE AMBASSADOR

VIA DCM *DM*

DATE: 3/5/75

FROM : LEGAL ATTACHE

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF HUGO ALFREDO ANZOARREGUI
CHIEF JUSTICE
BUENOS AIRES PROVINCIAL SUPREME COURT

Reference my memo 2/28/75.

On 3/5/75, an official of the Federal Police of Argentina (FPA), assigned to the Department of Federal Security, provided the following information:

On 2/24/75

SERGIO SCHNEIDER was picked up by FPA Department of Federal Security officers assigned to the Division de Sumarios (formerly DIPA) and taken to a safe house in Buenos Aires Province. SCHNEIDER was not legally detained and not held under the terms of the Executive Power. SCHNEIDER had previously been identified as the murderer of FPA Comisario Inspector SANDOVAL, and was picked up for the purpose of extra-legal interrogation with the ultimate view of eliminating him.

During the morning of 2/28/75, Comisario Mayor EDUARDO PEDRO RAMIREZ, an ranking official in the FPA Federal Security, received a telephone call from FPA Chief LUIS MARGARIDE instructing RAMIREZ to produce SCHNEIDER, in order that he might be delivered to an undisclosed foreign country by private aircraft prior to the evening of 2/28/75. When RAMIREZ questioned MARGARIDE as to the purpose of delivering SCHNEIDER, MARGARIDE informed him that he had just received a telephone call from the Minister of the Interior instructing the FPA to give up SCHNEIDER and to fill out a blank decree indicating that SCHNEIDER had been detained the previous week by the order of the Executive Power; that he had opted to leave the country and had departed a week earlier. RAMIREZ was told by MARGARIDE that SCHNEIDER was to be exchanged for Judge ANZOARREGUI, and that it was vital that government records indicate he had been detained and departed the country the previous week.

- 1 - POL
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- 1 - SY
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KIDNAPPING OF HUGO ALFREDO ANZOARREGUI

It should be noted that it is common practice among FPA Department of Federal Security officials to retain blank decrees for detentions under the Executive Power and to fill in the necessary data when required, even though a subject may have been detained for a considerable period of time.

RAMIREZ was so incensed at MARGARIDE's orders, that he had to take several tranquilizers to calm him down. Several other Department of Federal Security officers talked of arranging for an AAA-type interception of the FPA officers transporting SCHNEIDER, with a view towards assassinating him before allowing him to go free.

The plan to deliver SCHNEIDER to another country, making it appear that he had arrived there during the week, fell through because no country within convenient flying distance of Buenos Aires would agree to such an operation. Therefore, SCHNEIDER had to be flown out on commercial aircraft as reported in the news media.

From the foregoing it is obvious that FPA Chief MARGARIDE lied to the Ambassador during their meeting on 3/4/75, when he indicated that the Argentine judiciary and only the Argentine judiciary was responsible for SCHNEIDER's release from custody.